

The Courier

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis



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UPCOMING Events

Pastor Rhonda Installation,
Sunday, August 28, 10:15 am

NO PARKING at Intermedia
rts on Sunday, Sept. 4 due to
construction

Handbells & Choir rehearsals
restart, Wednesday,
September 7,

Joint Service, Sunday,
September 11, 10:30 am
(Bring your water!!)
Followed by lunch

Sanctuary Switch, 10 am,
Monday, September 12

New features for Children's Sunday School



SpringHouse Sunday School children at last spring's end-of-year service

As the combined SpringHouse Children's Sunday School continues to evolve, the 2016-2017 program will be doing a few things differently and even trying out some brand new features when the new classes start on September 11.

One big adjustment is the time and order of things. Children will start in their classrooms at 9:20, and then join together for group singing at 10:05 to 10:20, led by Pastor Rhonda from Salem. The Child Ministry team calls this "a big culture change for us!"

"Water – WOW!" is the curriculum theme this year. Lessons for the two children's classes will run in two-week cycles on such topics as "Jesus Walking on Water," "Jonah" and "Calming the Storm." Classes will continue to be taught by volunteer "Wise Ones"; anyone interesting in teaching any of the two-week sections should contact Rae Buzzell (612-991-8351) or Emma Jorstad (715-556-1104). The "Shepherds" element (regular adults on hand to help in classes) has been discontinued. If additional adult hands are needed for certain activities, the Child Ministry leaders will communicate that need directly.

One brand new feature is "Parents' Round Table" to be held during the 9:20-10:20 Sunday School time. Child Ministry team leaders are not quite sure what this will be like yet, but they'd like a place for parents to gather and learn together. Likely, the first few weeks will be a time to figure out what parents are looking for, and a chance to have pastries and coffee. Anyone with a passion for leading this round table should also contact Rae or Emma (see above).

Finally, Intergenerational Sundays will be held throughout the year, when adult and children's classes work together. The first such gathering will be October 30, for a "Dia De Los Muertos" program.



In Our Prayers

Prayers for Joy

For the safe return and successful outcome for the Detroit Mission Team

Prayers for Concern

For Deb's friend Lee, recovering from heart surgery

For Nikki, friend of Lu Griffin and Mike Hesano, struggling with finding housing for herself and her children

For Mavis Rusinak

For Barb Rusinak

For Theresa Brochart

For Val Dunham's brother

For all our homebound members, including Dorothy Becker and Phyllis Dunlap

Prayers for the World

For people of Baton Rouge area suffering from flooding disaster

For families in this country and around the world living with violence all around them



A message from Pastor Laurie

Shifting Gears



On Tuesday Martha Harris, the Editor of our newsletter, sent the newsletter to Deb, Dan and me. In the email she said for me to send my article directly to Deb. That is when I realized that I had not only missed the deadline once again, I had forgotten that it was a newsletter week! Martha is always gracious with my inability to get a newsletter article to her on time and I am very grateful for her kindness.

Later Tuesday afternoon I found myself standing at the office counter by Deb asking, "So when is the absolute deadline for getting my article to you?" Deb looked at me and smiled. Again, I am grateful for the gift of grace and kindness from Martha and Deb. It was at that point that I had to admit I had no idea what to write for this article. I told Deb that we are in that in between time of summer activities winding up and Fall activities starting up. Deb said, "We are shifting gears." At least at that point I had a title for the article (thanks to Deb)!

It is true we are "shifting gears" from an extremely active Summer to, well, an extremely active Fall. Summertime used to be the time that churches slowed down but that has not happened at FCC. We continue to worship, meet, play and serve our neighbors. Now we find ourselves with a couple of weeks that are not packed with meetings, Mission At Our Doorstep, Detroit Mission Trip and fellowship activities.

What shall we do with these couple of weeks? Maybe it is time that we spend time catching our breaths and enjoying the last days of a beautiful Minnesota Summer. I would love for us to spend time thanking God for all that we have been able to experience this summer. As we catch our breaths maybe we can remember the faces of the people with whom we experienced the presence of God this Summer and offer thanks for each person. Did you get to spend time experiencing the incredible beauty of creation this summer? Maybe we should spend one whole day giving thanks for the gift of enjoying creation.

It is important that we take a break from our "busyness" and spend time thanking God. As we "shift gears" toward our Fall programming and planning for our Stewardship Campaign, Advent, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day (yes, Christmas falls on a Sunday this year) and all of our Mission/Outreach opportunities I encourage all of us to spend time thanking God and praying for ways that we can share the love of God with all in the Fall and beyond.

I'll start us off: I give thanks to God for the incredible opportunity to serve as your Senior Pastor. I am going to spend the next couple of weeks lifting your names in prayer and sharing with God why I love you. I will also pray that we will discover ways to use our abilities and gifts to continue to serve "our neighbors." Of course, I guess my first prayer should be thanksgiving for the grace offered me by Martha and Deb!

Much love and peace, Laurie

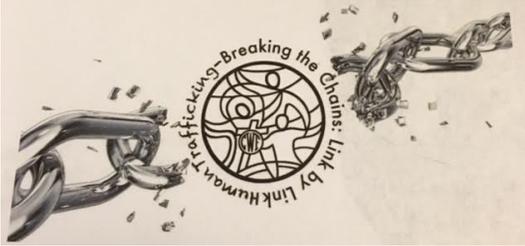
Women's Retreat set for September 23-26

Breaking the Chains, Breaking Free, Being Empowered is the theme of the annual Women's Retreat for the Christian Church of the Upper Midwest. Dates for this year's retreat are Friday evening through Sunday afternoon, September 23-26 at Lake Koronis, in Paynesville, Minnesota.

You can register (and pay!) online or print out a form at

<https://docgeneralassembly.webconnex.com/womensretreat2016>

Printed forms are also available from the office or from the back table in the North Sanctuary.



The registration deadline is September 9. Add a \$25 late fee if registering after that date. Registrations post- marked by August 19 will be entered in a drawing for a special gift.

Scholarships are available. See the registration form for information.

Salem pastor's installation on August 28



Pastor Rhonda Hlavinka's installation as pastor of Salem English Lutheran Church will be Sunday August 28 at 10:15 am in the Gathering Space, before the 10:30 am services so that all of SpringHouse can be part of formally welcoming Pastor Rhonda to our Salem and SpringHouse community. Come and celebrate with Salem!

Don't forget your water on September 11

The SpringHouse Gathering Sunday Joint Worship Service on September 11 needs a bit of water from everyone! In these last few days of summer, as you travel or make those last summer trips to the lake or a park, please take a moment to collect some water. Use an old bottle, a Ziploc bag, or whatever container you have to bring back some water from summer. Pastors Laurie, Rhonda and Ashley will be making use of all these gifts in the worship service.



Bryant
Park
Worship,
2016



FCC Board Notes

Eleven people attended the August 16 meeting of the FCC Church Board. (No meeting was held in July.) Highlights of the meeting include the following:

- Details for the August 21 Worship in the Park program were made final. The Detroit Mission Group will speak, sharing their experiences and insights.
- Volunteers are needed to help set up, serve and clean up for the Gathering Sunday potluck on September 11.
- Several neighborhood people attended the first-ever Community Meal, held at SpringHouse during Mission at Our Doorstep week, and other neighborhood people expressed interest. The Mission and Outreach team is seeking feedback from the congregation about their level of support a regularly schedule community meal.
- Children's Sunday School has a new time – 9:20 – 10:20 and a new order, with children starting directly in their classes, and then joining for music time at 10:05 to be led by Pastor Rhoda.
- **Treasurer's Report** indicated pledge income of \$11,412 for July. Year to date annual income is approximately \$10,398 under expected income for January through July.



September 2016 First Christian Church					Sunday Morning Schedule 9:00 Spiritual Formation Classes 10:30 Worship 11:45 Fellowship Time in Gathering Space		
				1 9 am Ecumenical Women's Ministry	2	3 9 am Men's Bible Study	
4 <div style="background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> No Parking at Intermedia Arts </div> Garden Sanctuary Noon – Child Ministry Team Meeting	5 Labor Day Offices Closed	6	7 8 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study 6:30 Handbells 7:45 Choir	8 9 am Ecumenical Women's Ministry 7 pm Pastor Laurie PRC	9	10 9 am Men's Bible Study	
11 South Sanctuary <div style="background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> JOINT WORSHIP Followed by Lunch </div> Noon – SH Green Team	12 10 am Sanctuary Moving Switch 7 pm Preaching Response Grp	13 7 pm SHMC Finance	14 8 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study 2 pm Mission and Outreach Mtg 5:30 Finance Mtg 6:30 Handbells 7:45 Choir	15 9 am Ecumenical Women's Ministry	16	17 9 am Men's Bible Study	
18 Garden Sanctuary 11:45 Blood Pressure Checks Noon Activistas 5:00 Elders	19 6:45 SH Building Committee 7 pm Preaching Response Grp	20 6 pm Worship Committee 7 pm Board Mtg	21 8 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study 6:30 Handbells 7:45 Choir	22 9 am Ecumenical Women's Ministry 7 pm SH Board	23 6:30 4 th Friday 40-50 Somethings Women's Retreat →	24 9 am Men's Bible Study Center for Justice Sustainable Conference	
25 Garden Sanctuary ←	26 7 pm SH Covenant Review Group	27	28 8 am Narrative Lectionary Bible Study 6:30 Handbells 7:45 Choir	29 9 am Ecumenical Women's Ministry	30		

	Elders	Worship Leader	Children's Moment	Diaconate	Bus Drivers
September 4	Mike Hesano Steve Rusinak	Ardie Armstrong	Dan Adolphson	A. Hesano M. Hurlocker	Garry Hesser 612.721.4905
September 11	Val Dunham	JOINT SERVICE	JOINT SERVICE	Mx Hurlocker Phil Kinney	Mike Hesano 651-645-6758
September 18	Barb Creighton Martha Harris	Karen Bowman	Laurie Feille	Elaine Tucker Becki Whitaker	Mike Morgan 612.926-9834
September 25	Jay Hillestad Sandy Morgan	Bryan Feille	Steve Rusinak	Grace Madsen	Garry Hesser 612.721.4905

Note: Please call drivers by Saturday for Sunday bus ride

SpringHouse Youth News

News items shared by SH Youth Director Pamela Cook



The Springhouse Youth Group will resume its regularly scheduled meetings on Sunday mornings at 9:15am on Sunday, September 11 (Gathering Sunday). We are happy to welcome all youth ages 11-18!

Two speakers share stories with SpringHouse Youth



The Springhouse Youth Group was pleased to host leaders of the Black Liberation Project at the first Youth Group Black Lives Matter Book/Bible Study.

Vanessa Taylor, 20, and Lucina Kaye, 19, brought together other like-minded people who were involved in Black Lives Matter-Minneapolis who felt they were being ignored because of their youth. Both of them identify as queer people of color and took time to share part of their personal stories and about their involvement in the Black Liberation Project.

Vanessa, a native of Hastings, attributed her recent activism to her participation in Ferguson protests in the Fall of 2014. She articulated a deep concern for the intersectional oppressions faced by African Americans.

On the other hand, Lucina came to Minnesota after fleeing the civil war in Liberia. A former child soldier and victim of severe abuse, she powerfully spoke about her passion for empowering youth in the foster care system. Both young ladies lifted up the importance of personal and communal self-care to deal with the stress and trauma of their activism and daily lives.

Youth/Intergenerational book study



The Springhouse Youth Group welcomes all to the last intergenerational BLM Book/Bible discussion for the summer on Sunday, August 28 from 12-1pm in Lydia. In an ongoing series regarding Black Lives Matter, social justice writer and new seminarian Andrea Plaid will discuss the intersection of feminism and Black Lives Matter regarding Black cisgender and transgender women as well as Black gender non-conforming people. Plaid's remarks will be followed by a question and answer period. Youth Minister Pamela Y. Cook will also share theological

and secular resources for understanding and discussing Black Lives Matter in particular and racial justice issues more broadly.

Sundays at First Christian Church

Worship at 10:30

Before Worship:

Spiritual Formation Classes:

9:00 Hearthstone Class,

9:15 Children's Classes;

9:30 SH Joint Adult Class

After Worship

11:45 Fellowship Time

Scripture Reading for Sunday, August 28 Luke 11: 2-4



Lord's Prayer in Arabic Calligraphy

*First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Minneapolis,
is a partner church at SpringHouse Ministry Center*

Reflections on the Word

Luke 11:3- 4 Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.

This prayer has five petitions. The first two (v. 2) have to do with God. The last three (vv. 3-4) have to do with the fulfillment of our needs. Each of those three is plural ("give us—forgive us—Bring us"), emphasizing the community of faith of which we are part rather than our individual needs.

God of All, Help us remember always that we are all in this together. Amen.

From Lectionary.org

*A Welcoming Community of Faith in the
Heart of the City:*

*A place where you can explore, be curious and
ask questions.*

Ministry Team

Dan Adolphson, Associate Pastor

dan.adolphson@fccmpls.org

Julia Andrix, Faith Community Nurse

fcn@mpls.org

Rick Bowman, SHMC Building Manager

Serena Chial, Nursery Attendant

Adam Contad, Music Director and

Composer-in-Residence

Pamela Cook SHMC Director of Youth
and Young Adults

Laurie Pound Feille, Senior Minister

pastor@fccmpls.org

Yunyue Liu, Keyboardist

Martha Harris, Courier Editor

Deb Murphy, Office Manager and Director

of Spiritual Formation for Children &

Youth; deb.murphy@fccmpls.org &

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Next Courier: September 10, 2016

Deadline: September 4, 2016

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